



THE EXCELLERATE

September 2008

MEMBER NEWSLETTER FOR OLLI at UNLV

A PROGRAM FOR LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- Don Silverman 

THEY ARE WOMEN: HEAR THEM ROAR

How lucky can a nice Jewish boy be -- who is admittedly no Brad Pitt -- living out every Jewish boy's fantasy by being married to a beautiful, intelligent, dynamic blue-eyed blond Swedish girl? I met this lucky guy at the OLLI National Conference in Atlanta. He happens to be a billionaire philanthropist to boot. His name is Bernard Osher, and he is married to Barbro Sachs-Osher, the Swedish Consul General in San Francisco.

OLLI at UNLV is also phenomenally lucky to have wonderful women assisting us. Space restrictions make it impossible to recognize all of them here, but there are two from the University and two from the OLLI membership that I would like to single out here.

As most of you know by now, two new Educational Outreach staff members are Debbie Smatresk and Genevieve Boldt. They are the wives of high level UNLV administrators, and both are working part-time directly for OLLI, and intensely involved in our drive to reach our enrollment goals and become eligible for the million dollar Osher endowment. They have already "moved some mountains" for OLLI'S benefit and are very enthusiastic and energetic in their efforts for us. They are now working in concert with the Board on just about every aspect of OLLI business, including our new Rebel Card entitlement, obtaining an additional classroom, modernizing and professionalizing our Bulletin and Catalog forms, and implementing the Long Range Planning Committee's commencement of satellite classes. You will get some further details in subsequent EXCELLERATES.

THEY ARE WOMEN: HEAR THEM ROAR

As for the two OLLI women: First, please be informed that Elise Hanseman, who is a Board member, Chairman of the Publicity Committee, and exceptionally active member of the Long Range Planning Committee, stepped up to the plate in a big way to work with the people at Sun City Alliant, Sun City McDonald Ranch, and Las Ventanas in our efforts to establish satellite sites and increase our membership. Many others were involved, but there is no doubt that it is primarily due to her tireless efforts that Alliant, McDonald Ranch, and Las Ventanas now all have approved our holding classes there. No one works harder for all of us than Elise, and her efforts should be recognized and applauded.

Second, speaking of hard workers: Roz Braverman has been one of the most active workers for OLLI and for EXCELL before that, of any of our members. In recent years she has not only been the Coordinator of the wonderful Writers' Workshop class, but she has been the Chairman of the Publications Committee, where she -- almost single-handedly -- produced all of the EXCELLERATES, and all of the annual OLLI Journals, and countless other publications. She has attended almost every Board meeting and volunteered for almost anything anyone needed for any function, event, or task. For the past several years I have encouraged this overworked woman to find a volunteer to assist her with the publications, and finally, new OLLI member, Bert Kulic, who has computer equipment and expertise, and experience with newsletters, volunteered. Satisfied that he could do the job, Roz resigned as Publications Chairman. The Board approved Bert as the new Publications Committee Chairman, but -- of course -- Roz stayed on as a Committee Member to assist him, and she will continue to coordinate my favorite class. I think that no one would dispute the fact that there has never been a more dedicated, hard-working, highly effective member, and that this program would not be where it is today had it not been for her long-time, continuous efforts on all of our behalf.

THEY ARE WOMEN: HEAR THEM ROAR

Oh, by the way: How lucky can a nice Jewish boy be -- also admittedly no Brad Pitt -- living out every Jewish boy's fantasy by being married to a beautiful, sexy, feisty, intelligent, dynamic Jewish girl? That would be me, married to Judy, the mother of our four sons and the grandmother of our eleven grandkids; for many years my legal secretary and manager of my law practice; in charge of your last two highly successful OLLI luncheons and the next one coming up in December; and so much more. I'm darned sure no billionaire or philanthropist, but I'm a rich man too. On August 14th, Judy and I celebrated our 54th wedding anniversary.

How lucky can we all be? **These Are Our Women – HEAR THEM ROAR!**

From: DEBBIE SMATRESK & GENENE BOLDT
Educational Outreach

FREE REBEL CARDS FOR OLLI MEMBERS

As an additional benefit to our OLLI members, Richard Lee, PhD., has put a process in place to provide free UNLV Rebel ID Cards this semester. The process to obtain a card is easier than ever. After signing up for OLLI membership, your name will be forwarded electronically to Rebel Cards at the Student Union. Members can then take their receipt to Moyers Student Union with one valid form of picture ID and receive their photo identification card. Your ID card will remain valid as long as you are a current OLLI member. Nonmember cards will be deactivated in the Spring or Fall semesters if membership expires. At that time all benefits associated with the card will expire as well. You can get your card at any time that is convenient for you. Although the initial card is free, replacement fees for lost cards will be the responsibility of the OLLI member.

For the upcoming Fall semester, members may begin getting their cards any time after August 22. This will give us the opportunity to forward the names to the representatives at Rebel Cards. Although not mandatory, obtaining a Rebel Card is strongly encouraged. In addition to the many benefits offered with the card, identification will be checked at the beginning of classes to ensure participants are registered members. If you do not have a Rebel Card, please be sure that you bring another form of ID to class.

Our thanks to Richard Lee for providing another benefit and recruiting tool to our members.

RECRUITING INCENTIVE

We are seeking to reach an OLLI membership of 500 members by January 2009, in order to be eligible for a million dollar endowment from the Osher Foundation. This will greatly enhance our ability to provide study groups and other services to our members. To reach our goal we need the help of all of our members. As an added incentive, any current member who successfully signs up a new member for the Fall 2008 semester will receive a tuition waiver for the Spring 2009 semester. Help us reach our goal!

COME ON IN!!!!!!

The UNLV OLLI ESL (English as a 2nd language) Tutoring Club is beginning its second year of assisting international students with speaking casual American English. It's fun to see the difference you can make in one person's life. No prior experience is necessary and we'll even show you how, so come on in!!
Donna Newsom 458-3332

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE, Mary Pace, Chair

With the curriculum set and the catalog mailed out, it seemed there would be a little rest before the semester began. How little I knew!

Three new study groups have been accepted by the Board. "American Revolutionary War Generals," led by Dr. Ehrlich, will be offered Wednesday afternoons in Room 123 (Educational Outreach Building). Two groups have been tentatively set for Friday: "Financial Security and Retirement," led by Jerry Smith on Friday mornings; "Growing Old in a New Age," led by Shirley Harris on Friday afternoons. Long-time members will remember Shirley as a co-founder of EXCELL (now OLLI) with Stephanie Smith. Both these Friday groups will be perfect for Baby Boomers, future retirees and our target audience. The groups will, of course, be open to all OLLI members. Flyers will be available at the Open House on the 13th.

Your Board, the Long Range Planning Committee and Educational Outreach are working hard to reach that magic 500 members by January. **DO YOUR PART AND BRING A FRIEND TO THE OPEN HOUSE!**

EVENTS COMMITTEE Arlene Cohen, Chair

The Events Committee has been working hard over the summer to plan events for the coming Semester, so Mark your calendars:

Saturday, October 4, 9:45 am, **CAMPUS TOUR**, a sightseeing adventure to see what's new on UNLV'S Main Campus. After the tour lunch will be available (self pay) at Moyer Student Union. It will be fun to see the new Union and share a meal together, and a chance for "Old Timers" to reminisce and for new members to make new friends.

Saturday, December 13, end of the Semester lunch at the Stan Fulton Building, great food, interesting conversation and enjoyable entertainment. More information will be forthcoming at a later date.

We are also trying to put together an Arts and Crafts Show by our members on the Paradise Campus in November. If you would like to participate or need more information please call me.
Arlene Cohen 435-6557

LOST AND FOUND: We have two Lost & Found sites. One is located at OLLI'S office in Room 509 and the other is at the Cashier's desk in the Educational Outreach office. If you find anything left behind please turn it in. Likewise if you are missing something, check with either Lost and Found.

LIBRARY TOUR, Elise Hanseman

A tour of UNLV'S Lied Library is being planned especially for OLLI members. Many OLLI members who have taken this tour have been pleasantly surprised by all our library has to offer. When built, it was the most high tech library in the country and has since been copied by many. If you would like to take the tour please let Elise Hanseman know. E-mail address: hanseman@unlv.nevada.edu or phone: 221-9121.

NELLIS AFB RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

Elise Hanseman

Volunteers are needed to help at OLLI'S Publicity booth for "Retiree Appreciation Day" at Nellis Air Force Base on Saturday, Sept.27, 2008. If interested in helping out, please e-mail or call Elise Hanseman. e-mail address:

hanseman@unlv.nevada.edu phone: 221-9121.

DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

Iris Bernikow and **Donna Newsom** wish to remind you to remember to bring your unused eyeglasses to OLLI'S office in Room 509. Get them out of you're cluttered up drawers and place them in the box titled **GLASSES**. These unwanted glasses will go to an organization called "Doctors Without Borders" who give them to local opticians who will mark the prescription of each lens so that the doctors in third world countries can easily prescribe them. The box will be there for your continuous contributions. Thank you!

Will Rogers, who died in a plane crash 1935, was probably the greatest political sage this country has ever known.

Enjoy the following: Contributed by **Iris Bernikow**

ABOUT GROWING OLDER...

First -Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Second -The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Third -Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

Fourth -When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

Fifth -You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

Sixth -I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.

Seventh -One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Eighth -One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been.

Ninth -Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

Tenth -Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today it's called golf.

And finally -If you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you are old.

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EXCELLERATE POLICY

EXCELLERATE will not run articles supporting or opposing political issues. We are not raising a question of free speech. We are merely a bulletin board for OLLI, its students and program. We invite all members to submit items of interest to be published in the EXCELLERATE. Letters to the Editor are welcome. Articles will be printed based on space availability and may be edited to fit. E-mail Bert Kulic at bertkulick@cox.net, 837-6467.



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FALL SEMESTER 2008

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 13** Open House at the Richard Tam Alumni Center (TAM HALL)
- Sept. 15** Classes begin
- Oct. 4** Tour of UNLV Main Campus
- Oct. 10** THE POWER OF POSITIVE AGING Richard Tam Alumni Center (Tam Hall)
- Oct. 14** Town Hall Meeting (*Gaming*) Paradise Campus Auditorium, Room 133
- Oct. 31** Nevada Day Recess
- Nov. 4** *V O T E*
- Nov. 11** Veterans' Day Recess
- Nov. 27-30** Thanksgiving Recess
- Dec. 12** Classes end
- Dec. 13** Holiday Luncheon at the Stan Fulton Building